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PERU.

Quarantine against Panama.

CALLAO, PERU, June 28, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you that most of the steamers arriving here from Panama, Colombia, lately have been subject to from five to ten days' quarantine on account of the yellow fever reported to be prevalent at Panama.

Owing to the lack of a lazaretto, passengers have been detained for days on quarantined vessels or quartered in a small and ill-adapted hulk. Meanwhile, cabin passengers have been made to pay extra, about \$5 per day.

Aside from the danger of contagion arising from such objectionable arrangements, some of these passengers find great difficulties in meeting the extra charges imposed. Mails are in some cases withheld, which might be expedited after being disinfected. Additional charges are also imposed upon merchandise.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. S. McBRIDE,
United States Vice-Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIAM.

Fresh outbreak of cholera in Bangkok.

BANGKOK, SIAM, June 3, 1897.

SIR: I regret to report that just at the end of the cholera season, when it was hoped that the coming of the rains would prevent the disease from spreading, it has broken out with considerable virulence, attacking foreigners as well as natives.

Monsieur Ranchot, the new French chargé d'affaires, who arrived only a few days ago, nearly died from its effects and is not yet out of danger. Mr. W. E. Swift, manager of the great Bombay-Burmah Trading Corporation, Limited, the chief foreign company here, recently passed away after a very brief illness, while several other foreigners of less prominence have been victims of fatal attacks. Two of my own servants have died after a few hours' sickness, including my cook who prepared dinner for a party I had on hand, and then calmly laid down on the kitchen floor and died. In each case death was caused by regular "Asiatic cholera." This is no exaggeration and gives the Department an opportunity to appreciate the varied *amenities* of life in the tropics.

In another week it is expected that the disease will be checked by rains and cool weather.

There are absolutely no sanitary arrangements in Bangkok, and, until there are, there can be little expectation of ever effectually stamping it out.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN BARRETT,
United States Consul-General.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.